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**MAILED**

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**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Patent No. 7,049,668 :

Issue Date: May 23, 2006 :

Application No. 09/139,935 :

Filed: August 25, 1998 :

Attorney Docket No. **2154-11** :

**ON PETITION**

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c), filed August 4, 2011, to accept the delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

This patent expired at midnight May 23, 2010, for failure to pay the 3½ year maintenance fee. Since this petition was submitted within twenty-four months after the six-month grace period provided in 37 CFR 1.362(e), the petition was timely filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.378(c).

The petition is hereby **GRANTED**.

The maintenance fee is hereby accepted and the above-identified patent is reinstated as of the mail date of this decision.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to JoAnne Burke at (571) 272-4584.

JoAnne Burke  
Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions